

Robertson and his Officers and Crew make so good an Appearance in every Respect and such good order observed, that it gives the greatest pleasure to the friends of our State and strikes the Tories with terror and confusion.

Gentlemen, We have the Honour to be

Respectfully,

The Honble. }  
The Council of Safety for the

State of Maryland }

Your very Humble Servant  
Van Bibber of Harrison.

St Eustatius 19<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1776.

Gentlemen,

I have this day wrote you fully and only mean by this to advise you that I have this day valued on you in fav<sup>r</sup> of Capt. Thomas Dalling (able at Sight) for Five hundred dollars which draft I flatter my self will be punctually Honour'd and I am with much esteem,

Gentlemen

The Honble. }  
The Council of Safety for the

State of Maryland }

Your most Obedient Servant  
H. M. Van Bibber.

Philadelphia Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 1776.

Gentlemen,

I arrived here Yesterday afternoon. I have seen our Commissioners. Congress in answer to the three Propositions from our State for raising our Quota have given a copy of a Resolve, relative to the Massachusetts Bay, who is I am inform'd, offer'd 30<sup>s</sup> a month extra for the privates, in which Congress agrees to give 20 Dollars bounty to each Soldier who will enlist for three years - our Commissioners are much displeas'd.

On Saturday last Genl Howe with his whole army surrounded fort Mifflin, he had 2000 men in the fort. There were two lines outside of the fort. A large Body of our men march'd out to the front Lines, and sustained the attack with great Bravery, until a party of the Enemy enclosed them within the first line in the back of our Troops, our forces then retreated into the fort, and soon afterwards Surrender'd. It seems agreed here, that the fort was injudiciously defend'd, and not with the Bravery that might have been expected from the Officers (Col<sup>l</sup> Magaw) who command'd, and the Troops which consist'd of Magaw's and Cadwallader's Battalions and a party of the flying Camp, chiefly pennsylvanians - If the fort had held out till the morning, Genl. Washington had expectations of bringing off the men. However 2000 men could not, I suppose, withstand an army of at least five times their number. Thus we have lost two thousands of our best Troops and some of our best Officers, with provisions and stores for 4 months.

(Prepared)